

Blues Springs Bioblitz Saturday, May 22 – Sunday, May 23 8:00am – 8:00am

WHAT? A bioblitz is an event where participants find and identify as many plant, animal, and fungi species as they can in a specific area within a short time period - in this case, 24 hours.

WHO? Individuals, families, school groups and classes, plant and animal enthusiasts, citizen scientists, and anyone else is welcome to participate. Though it is helpful, you do not need to be able to identify plants or animals. As long as you have a smart phone and can download and use the free iNaturalist app, you can participate!

WHY? National Cement is collaborating with the City of Ragland, St. Clair County, and Freshwater Land Trust to nominate one of their properties in Ragland, AL to Alabama's Forever Wild Program. This bioblitz will generate species observations to strengthen the nomination.

WHEN?

- 8:00am Saturday, May 22, 2021 to 8:00am Sunday, May 23, 2021
- Rain date: 8:00am Saturday, June 5 to 8:00am Sunday, June 6
- If the event needs to be delayed due to weather, you will know by 7am on Sat, May 22.

WHERE?

- This event will take place on a remote 373-acre property in Ragland, AL.
- The property entrance is at the intersection of Morning Star Rd and Brannon Dr.
- Navigate to these coordinates (33.727129,-86.147457) using Google maps. Then use the property map to explore. <u>Download the property map here.</u>
- You can visit the registration table from 8am 4pm Saturday for bottled water, masks, snacks, FLT stickers, and general info.

HOW?

- Register online here.
- Download the iNaturalist app on your smart phone. Join the project "Blue Springs Bioblitz" to add your observations.
- Be prepared. Wear long pants and hiking boots, and bring water and snacks.
- All roads into property are dirt roads, so drive carefully.
- Then, observe! Input all your observations, even if it's just a photo, into iNaturalist.

What about COVID?

- The property is 373 acres, which means there's plenty of room to social distance.
- Masks will be available at the registration table.
- To limit contact, participants are not required to visit the registration table.
- Participants can come and go as they please.